Study for restructuring of HCL

1868. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:
SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) were engaged by Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL) to conduct study for restructuring the sick company;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether they have submitted the report and recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In furtherance to the Draft Rehabilitation Study (DRS) on revival of Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL) prepared by the State Bank of India, the Operating Agency appointed by the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), a technical study was conducted by IIT, Khargpur in November, 2004. Subsequently, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) was appointed in for conducting a detailed turnaround strategy for HCL.

(c) and (d) The technical study conducted by IIT, Khargpur suggested capital investment of Rs. 1643 crore for revival of HCL. The TCS turn around strategy examined three options *viz.* Status Quo, Closure and Revival. Status Quo option involved annual recurring expenditure of Rs. 80 crore. Cost of closure was stipulated at Rs. 1296.87 crore. Revival, even with certain concessions, restructuring and large scale Voluntary Retirement, in the view of TCS, was not possible.

Reports of SBI, IIT and TCS were considered by the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) on 11.09.2006 when it was desired that since these studies did not present an integrated approach on HCL, a fresh detailed, comprehensive, holistic study through IIT, Khargpur be conducted. Report, accordingly, received from IIT, Khargpur was considered by the BRPSE on 9.1.2008 when it was recommended for Joint Venture partnership either with Public or Private Enterprises failing which a complete disinvestment. Based on the recommendations of the BRPSE, views of Central Public Sector Enterprises, which have synergies with HCL were called for in June, 2008 and thereafter an advertisement was published in August, 2008 seeking expansion of interest from interested Public Sector Enterprises. Further action is under process.

Steps for check on ragging

1869. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government in compliance with the Supreme Court order to effectively prevent ragging in central and other educational, technological, medical and business institutions and universities and colleges; and

(b) the steps taken by different institutions, universities, colleges and schools in response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) In accordance with the orders of the Supreme Court of India dated 16-05-2007, 12.12.2007, 30.3.2009 and 8.5.2009, in the matter of University of Kerala *Vs* Council, Principals' Colleges, Kerala and Ors., the Government has issued directions to regulatory bodies to implement major recommendations made by Committee to look into the issue of ragging and suggest means of prevention in educational institutions head by Dr. R.K. Raghavan. This Ministry has also requested the Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of all State Government/Union Territories to comply with the directions of the Hon. Supreme Court of India.

The University Grants Commission has notified, on 17th June, 2009, its regulation namely "The UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009". These regulations are comprehensive and provide for a number of punitive and prohibitive measures, including stopping of grants by UGC and also withdrawal of affiliation/recognition or other privileges conferred, if any higher education institution fails to comply with any of the provisions of regulation or fails to curb ragging effectively. The regulations also require higher educational institutions to take effective steps in order to sensitize students on the dehumanizing effects of ragging and generate awareness among all stakeholders regarding the penal laws applicable to incidents of ragging. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has also notified its anti-ragging regulation on 01-07-2009. Other Statutory Councils responsible for maintenance of standards of professional education are also in the process of finalizing respective regulations for the curbing of the menace of ragging. The Department of School Education and Literacy has been advised to formulate similar regulations within the school system. A toll free anti-ragging "Helpline" has already been launched on 20th June, 2009 with Call Centre facilities in English, Hindi and several regional languages to begin with, for helping victims of ragging, besides faciliting effective action in respect of such incidents. This is being further strengthened by creating a web enabled portal for monitoring appropriate data bases and online interactive facilities.

The Court has also directed to set up two different Committees. The first Committee to be appointed comprising psychiatrists/psychologists/mental health specialists, a documentary maker and educationalists from various fields to ascertain the psychological impact of ragging on students. The second Committee to be constituted immediately to examine the problem of

alcoholism on the Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College Campus and to suggest immediate de-addiction measures. Accordingly, the Ministry has issued orders for constitution of above mentioned Committees.

Changes in mid-day meal scheme

1870. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mid-day meal scheme, an important component of primary education initiated by the Centre, has not been implemented properly and hygienically by the States;

(b) whether Government is aware that due to shortage of teachers in primary schools the study and scheme both are suffering; and

(c) if so, what changes will be made in the existing schemes and whether parents of students will also be made stake-holders in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Under the Guidelines of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) elaborate arrangements have been made to ensure that children of primary and upper primary classes (I-VIII) Government, Government aided and Local Body schools and Centres of Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS)/Alternative and Innovative Education (AIE) including Madarsas and Maqtabs, supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) get nutritions and hygienic hot cooked mid-day meal. During the financial year 2008-09, on an average 10.79 crore children per day availed mid-day meal. The MDMS Guidelines stipulate that under no circumstances the teachers will be assigned responsibilities, which impede or interfere with teaching learning process in schools. Their involvement in the programme is limited to ensure that good quality, wholesome food is served to children and actual serving and eating is undertaken in a spirit of togetherness, under hygienic conditions and in an orderly manner in about 30-40 minutes. The guidelines also provide for active participation of parents through Village Education Committee, Parent Teacher Association, School Management and Development Committee, Mother's Committee, etc. to monitor the (i) regularity, wholesomeness, quality of meal, (ii) cleanliness in cooking serving of mid-day meal and (iii) social and gender equity in serving mid-day meal etc. As and when, any complaint is brought to the notice of the Government, the concerned State Government/UT Administration is asked to conduct a suitable enquiry into the complaint and to take appropriate action against the responsible person (s) and initiate corrective measures to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.

Establishment of IISERs

1871. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: